

CLAIMS

1-21. Cancelled.

22. (Previously Presented) A method for coordinating operation modes of a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, comprising:

monitoring a status of a Gs link between a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) and a Mobile Switching Center (MSC);

sending a Gs status message to a Base Station Controller (BSC) indicating the status of the Gs link;

selecting an operation mode from a plurality of operations modes based on the Gs status message, wherein each of the plurality of operation modes specifies which one of a plurality of channels to use for circuit-switched pages and which to use for data packet pages;

sending a first operation mode message from the BSC to a mobile subscriber (MS) instructing the MS to switch to the selected operation mode; and

sending a second operation mode message from the BSC to the SGSN instructing the SGSN to switch to the selected operation mode.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising sending an inquiry from the BSC to the SGSN, the inquiry requesting the Gs link status.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising sending an inquiry from the BSC to the MSC, the inquiry requesting the Gs link status.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein sending the Gs status message to the BSC further comprises sending the Gs status message from the SGSN.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein sending the Gs status message to the BSC further comprises sending the Gs status message from the MSC.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein selecting the operation mode from the plurality of operations modes further comprises the BSC selecting the operation mode.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein sending the Gs status message to the BSC indicating the status of the Gs link further comprises sending a Gs failed message to the BSC indicating the Gs link has failed or sending a Gs operational message indicating the Gs link is operational.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein selecting the operation mode from the plurality of operations modes based on the Gs status message sent to the BSC further comprises selecting the operation mode from the plurality of operations modes based on a list of preferred operation modes, selecting a most preferred operation mode on the list that is compatible with the status of the Gs sent to the BSC.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29,
wherein the list of preferred operation modes includes network operation mode one (NOM1), network operation mode two (NOM2), and network operation mode three (NOM3);

wherein NOM1 specifies that both packet and circuit-switched pages are sent on a Common Control Channel (CCCH) to the MS, if the MS is not GPRS attached, wherein NOM1 specifies that both packet and circuit-switched pages are sent on a packet paging channel to the MS, if the MS is GPRS attached but is not assigned a packet data channel, wherein NOM1 specifies that circuit-switched pages are sent on a

packet data channel to the MS, if the MS is GPRS attached and assigned the packet data channel;

wherein NOM2 specifies that both packet and circuit-switched pages are sent on a CCCH to the MS; and

wherein NOM3 specifies that circuit-switched pages are sent on a CCCH to the MS and packet pages are sent on a CCCH or a packet paging channel.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein NOM1 is compatible with the Gs in operational status, but not failed status, wherein NOM2 is compatible with the Gs in failed status, wherein NOM3 is compatible with the Gs in failed status.

32. (Previously Presented) A Base Station Controller (BSC) configured for coordinating operation modes of a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, comprising:

the BSC configured to receive a Gs status message indicating a status of a Gs link between a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) and a Mobile Switching Center (MSC);

the BSC configured to select an operation mode from a plurality of operation modes based on the status of the Gs sent to the BSC, wherein each of the plurality of operation modes specifies which one of a plurality of channels to use for circuit-switched pages and which to use for data packet pages;

the BSC configured to send a first operation mode message to a mobile subscriber (MS) instructing the MS to switch to the selected operation mode; and

the BSC configured to send a second operation mode message from the BSC to the SGSN instructing the SGSN to switch to the selected operation mode.

33. (Previously Presented) The BSC of claim 32, wherein the BSC is further configured to send an inquiry to the SGSN, the inquiry requesting the Gs link status.

34. (Previously Presented) The BSC of claim 32, wherein the BSC is further configured to send an inquiry to the MSC, the inquiry requesting the Gs link status.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the BSC configured to receive the Gs status message further comprises the BSC configured to receive a Gs status message from the SGSN.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the BSC configured to receive the Gs status message further comprises the BSC configured to receive a Gs status message from the MSC.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the BSC configured to receive the Gs status message further comprises the BSC configured to receive a Gs failed message indicating the Gs link has failed or a Gs operational message indicating the Gs link is operational.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the BSC configured to select the operation mode based on the status of the Gs received by the BSC and based on a list of preferred operation modes further comprises the BSC configured to select the operation mode most preferred on a list of operational modes ranked by preference, the selected operation mode compatible with the status of the Gs received by the BSC.

39. (Previously Presented) A method for a Base Station Controller (BSC) to coordinate operation modes of a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, comprising:

receiving a Gs status message indicating the status of a Gs link between a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) and a Mobile Switching Center (MSC);

selecting an operation mode from a plurality of operations modes based on the received Gs status message and based on a list of preferred operation modes, wherein each of the plurality of operation modes specifies which one of a plurality of channels to use for circuit-switched pages and which to use for data packet pages;

sending a first operation mode message to a mobile subscriber (MS) instructing the MS to switch to the selected operation mode; and

sending a second operation mode message to the SGSN instructing the SGSN to switch to the selected operation mode.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising sending an inquiry to the SGSN, the inquiry requesting the Gs link status.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising sending an inquiry to the MSC, the inquiry requesting the Gs link status.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein receiving the Gs status message indicating the status of the Gs link further comprises receiving a Gs failed message to the BSC indicating the Gs link has failed or receiving a Gs operational message indicating the Gs link is operational.